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COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1951

AUGUST, 1952

MUNICIPAL OFFICES
COALVILLE

COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the Report of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1951

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor F.A.Smith

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor J.H.Curtis

Councillors Mrs Griffin, Moore, Moulton, Roome,
Sheffield and Willn.

Ex-officio: Councillor J.D.Smith, J.P.(Chairman of the Council)
Councillor R.H.E.Glover (Vice-Chairman of the Council).

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical:

Andrew Hamilton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health (part-time).

Sanitary Inspectors:

H.Hunter, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Chief Sanitary Inspector.
N.A.Shutes, C.R.S.I., Additional Sanitary Inspector.
J.P.Davies, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector.

Clerical Staff:

G.W.Robinson, C.R.S.I.

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
Coalville.

To: The Coalville Urban District Council.

Mr Chairman and Members of the Council,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the district for the year 1951.

The Report follows the instructions contained in Circular 42/51, dated 10.12.51, from the Ministry of Health.

The health and sanitary condition of the district appear to have reached a satisfactory standard, although one does not allow this conclusion to preclude the desirability and possibility of further progress and improvement. Particular attention is drawn to the attempts made towards the abolition of privies (the financial contribution which the Council is now prepared to make towards the cost of the work will be of material assistance); to the progress made in connection with housing; to the very extensive work which has been done in the inspection and supervision of food and especially with regard to meat inspection at the slaughterhouse and elsewhere; to the reasonably light incidence of infectious disease; and to the extraordinarily low infantile mortality rate, substantially the lowest ever recorded in your District.

It may truly be said that there are few, if any, facets of the life of every member of the community which the work of this Department fails to touch, but the acceptance of this responsibility by the Council, acting through its Public Health officials does not absolve the community as a whole and as individuals from its own share of responsibility, for there is no doubt that an enlightened community, with an ever increasing knowledge of health matters and problems, can greatly assist in the work of prevention of disease.

I wish to thank the Surveyor and Water Engineer for information supplied respecting public water supplies, sewerage and public cleansing, and for ready co-operation in many ways. I have also to thank the Chief Sanitary Inspector and every member of the staff of the Department for their enthusiasm and co-operation throughout the year.

And I would again thank you, Mr Chairman and Members of the Council, for your continued consideration and courtesy.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

Andrew Hamilton.

Medical Officer of Health.

August 1952.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	6,453
Population (1951 census)	25,739
Population (est. middle 1951)	25,660
Number of inhabited houses (end 1951)	7,158
Rateable value (1951)	£113,957
Product of ld rate (1951)	£445.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births:</u>	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	189	174	363
Illegitimate	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>11</u>
	<u>196</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>374</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 estimated population mid. 1951 - 14.5.

<u>Still Births:</u>	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	7	5	12
Illegitimate	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>12</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births - 31.1.

<u>Deaths:</u>	M.	F.	Total
	134	126	260

Death Rate per 1000 estimated population mid. 1951 - 10.1.

Maternal Mortality:

Rate per 1000 Total (live and still) births - 0.

Death rate of infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1000 live births	24
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	25
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	45
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

A domiciliary midwifery service is provided by the County Council, there being four whole-time midwives, and two nurse-midwives to cover the whole area.

There is also a small nursing home for midwifery cases, partly available for private patients, and partly available, by arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board, for "State" patients. In the selection of patients of the latter category for admission certain priorities are observed, special consideration being given to those whose medical or obstetrical history or whose environmental circumstances warrant admission for their confinement. It is to be noted that accommodation is not reserved for purely local cases and, as a matter of fact, many patients from outside the Urban District are confined there, whilst an appreciable number of Urban District residents are confined in Ashby Cottage Hospital and Bosworth Park Infirmary.

The health visiting service and the home nursing service are also provided by the County Council. Six nurses are engaged in the latter service, four of them whole-time and two as nurse-midwives, as indicated above. One of the whole-time nurses is a male, and there is no doubt that he plays an important role in the scheme of things.

It is impossible to speak too highly of the work of all those employed in the services above-mentioned.

The ambulance service is also under the control of the County Council, with the exception of that service provided by the Coal Board for accident cases occurring in and about the pits. The County Council Depot is situated in Avenue Road, Coalville - a central position, and the Coal Board ambulances are stationed at Nailstone Colliery - outside your area.

Occasional criticisms are heard of the ambulance service, sometimes directed at the discomfort of the "ride" given, but more frequently at the devious route at times taken in conveying patients to and from hospital in Leicester, and occasionally at failure to pick up a patient. The latter fault has two varieties - either the patient is entirely overlooked, or he may be picked up too late to permit of his keeping the appointment made at the hospital.

The remedy for the first mentioned criticism is probably obvious - vehicles become less well-sprung with the passage of time and repairs and renewals are a matter of finance.

The second criticism may again be blamed on financial causes. It is obviously impossible that every patient can have an ambulance to himself and, where the condition of the patients permit, it is reasonable to take a number in one vehicle. But it may be that in such cases better grouping as regards addresses could be arranged and if this is so, much of the criticism would be disarmed.

The third criticism may possibly be laid at the door of the human element - no scheme is fool-proof, and probably no administrative arrangement could be arrived at that would completely ensure that no lapse should occur.

And finally, I have heard criticism to the effect that in some cases insufficient help was available for the moving of stretcher cases or for the assisting of patients who could do little to help themselves. I am sure that the explanation here is that the information at the disposal of the individual responsible for sending out the ambulance failed to disclose the necessity for the presence of an attendant.

My own experience of the service is that it works well in spite of the criticisms mentioned which, when one considers the demands made upon it, are after all comparatively few.

The Minister of Health has issued rules relating to the use of ambulances, the first rule reading:- "Where a person who needs to attend hospital can reasonably be expected to make his own way there he should do so. If he cannot afford the fare to travel by public transport he may apply to the National Assistance Board for help."

It is further stated that relatives or escorts can only be carried on ambulances with children and special patients such as blind persons and emergency cases; otherwise they should travel by public transport and meet the patient at the end of the ambulance journey.

General practitioners have been informed of these rules by the County Medical Officer of Health and generally the public appear to have recognised the force of the arguments in favour of the application of some restriction on the use of ambulances although it is not intended, of course, that any case which genuinely requires an ambulance vehicle should not have one.

No hospital is situated within your area: a gap in the health services which carries with it certain disadvantages and inconveniences. Most patients who require hospital treatment, in-patient or out-patient, are dealt with at Leicester Royal Infirmary or Leicester General Hospital, whilst a minority are dealt with at Loughborough. The provision of some hospital accommodation locally would, to some extent, ease the calls made upon the larger institutions but specialisation in all branches of medicine is now reaching such a state that the scope of activity of the

small hospital is limited. However, a field of usefulness does exist for even the small hospital, and in this industrial area some facilities for the treatment of minor injuries, x-ray investigations and physiotherapy would fill a long felt want.

County Homes and Institutions are provided by the County Council for elderly persons who are not actually ill and who do not require skilled attention, admission being secured by application to the Chief Welfare Officer of the County Council.

Accommodation for the chronic sick is provided by the Regional Hospital Board through the appropriate Hospital Management Committee to which body applications for admission are made.

Considerable delay is frequently encountered in securing admission to County Homes and Chronic Sick accommodation but, of course, admission is not infrequently sought for persons who, although ill, could reasonably be looked after at home by relatives, provided those relatives are prepared to accept their due responsibility. It is unfortunately true that some of those for whom admission is sought are those who deserve well of their relatives but who find themselves unwanted.

In the Health Clinic, Bridge Road, Coalville, (premises owned by the County Council) the following sessions are held:-

School Clinic	Mondays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
	Thursdays 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Dental Clinic	Saturday mornings by appointment.
Ante-natal Clinic	Tuesdays 9.30 a.m.
Orthopaedic Clinic	Mondays and Wednesdays 2.p.m.
Chest Clinic	Fridays 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.
Infant Welfare Centre	Tuesdays 2.30 p.m.

At Whitwick, in the Primitive Methodist Schoolroom, Leicester Road, an Infant Welfare Centre is conducted on Mondays at 2.30 p.m.

It is understood that during 1952 it is intended to discontinue the Chest Clinic held on Friday mornings, the work done there to be transferred to Markfield Sanatorium, where it is expected that the x-ray examinations etc. required may be carried out without the delay experienced under the existing arrangements.

Patients suffering from non-tuberculous disease of the lungs are referred to the Chest Unit at Groby Road Isolation Hospital, Leicester.

The Domestic Help Service is provided by the County Council, administered from an area office at 187 Forest Road, Coalville. This

service is playing an important and increasing part in the life of the community and is an undoubted boon to many in times of illness.

There is a depot for the supply of nursing equipment on loan, a small charge being made to users, through arrangements made between the County Council and the Medical Loan Committee of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade. Applications for hire or loan of equipment are made to Mrs Bates, 48 Berrisford Street, Coalville.

Laboratory facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Groby Road, Leicester, and the service was made good use of during the year.

During 1951 the following examinations were carried out for your authority:

Blood	5
Throat and nose swabs	4
Faeces and Urine	86
Sputa	103
Milk	124
Ice-cream	21
Water	45
Miscellaneous	<u>28</u>
Total	<u>416</u>

No action was necessary during the year under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The public water supply for the area is obtained from the new red sandstone measures overlying the coal measures, water being pumped from boreholes and pit shafts sunk into and through these measures respectively. These public supplies are situated at Broom Leys Pumping Station, Holly Hayes Pumping Station, Whitwick Colliery and Ellistown Colliery, and all water from these sources is chlorinated, the Ellistown and Whitwick Colliery supplies also being filtered.

The average daily output from these sources during the year was:

Broom Leys	226,000 galls.
Holly Hayes	113,000 galls.
Whitwick & Ellistown Collieries	437,000 galls.

The total quantity of water pumped from the various sources during the year was 283,205,000 gallons, a decrease of 3,954,000 gallons compared with 1950.

33,389,000 gallons were supplied in bulk to Market Bosworth Rural District Council, a decrease of 2,447,000 gallons from the 1950 figures.

Daily consumption for the Urban area for all purposes averaged 26.6 gallons per head of the population.

During the year work commenced on the Council's scheme for extension and development of its water supplies. Almost the whole of the new mains were laid and a depth of 125 feet reached in the sinking of the new borehole at Holly Hayes, Whitwick.

Tenders were obtained for the supply of pumping machinery but as yet no Contract has been entered into.

It would appear that due to the shortage of steel there will be delay in the commencement of the construction of the new two million gallon reservoir at Forest Rock.

The required standard of purity for a public water supply was maintained during 1951. 18 samples of raw (untreated) water and 13 of treated water going into supply were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year, with the following results:

Whitwick Colliery		Ellistown Colliery		Holly Hayes		Broom Leys Pumping Station		Distribution points in the area.
Raw. Treat.		Raw. Treat.		Raw. Treat.		Raw. Treat.		
2-	2-	2-	5-	4-	2-	5-	-	4-
2+		3+						

4 samples of 'raw' water, one from each of the four sources of supply were examined during the year.

Chemically the samples were reported as being of satisfactory purity and free from metallic contamination, the degrees of hardness being as follows:

	<u>Broom Leys</u>	<u>Holly Hayes</u>	<u>Whitwick C.</u>	<u>Ellistown C.</u>
Permanent	26.0	24.0	74.0	60.0.
Temporary	11.0	12.0	60.0	44.0.

6,978 houses in the area, accommodating 25,218 persons, have an internal water supply direct from the public mains, and 57 houses occupied in all by 206 persons are supplied from standpipes.

87 houses, including some outlying farms, have no water supply from public sources, most of these being outside the range of existing mains.

9 samples of water from private wells were submitted for examination during the year, only 1 of these being reported as satisfactory quality. The other 8 samples showed the wells concerned to be polluted to a greater or lesser extent and in all cases notices were served requiring the provision of a wholesome water supply.

8 wells were closed during the year and the houses concerned supplied from the public water mains.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During the year the reconstruction of 700 yards of the North High Level Sewer was substantially completed and the Ravenstone Road sewer re-laid.

The systems in the area continue to be affected by mining subsidence with a consequent need of close supervision.

This subsidence equally affects the private drainage systems with disastrous results. It is fortunate that in the areas liable to subsidence there are no wells used for drinking purposes. The amount of pollution to underground rainwater tanks is some indication of what would be the result had we an equivalent number of shallow wells. These defects are reflected in the number of inspections made during the year, viz., 467. Close co-operation exists between the National Coal Board, the Contractors and the department and in no case did a problem remain unsolved. All new or reconstructed drainage work is pressure tested before being covered.

Four cesspools were abolished during the year and the properties concerned connected to the sewer.

There are still a number of properties in your district with unsatisfactory drainage facilities. In the majority of cases however there is no public sewer available and it would appear an uneconomical proposition to provide one. In such cases steps are being taken to improve the existing arrangements by the provision of proper cesspools or small sewage treatment plants where suitable outfalls are available into which the effluents can be passed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

Public cleansing and scavenging are under the control of your Surveyor, these services being provided for the whole of the area. 6 motor refuse collection vehicles are employed for this purpose.

A weekly collection of house refuse has been maintained during 1951 with a regular collection of nightsoil - weekly for pail closets and every 4 weeks for middens. Refuse is disposed of by "controlled" tipping, the tips being situated at Hugglescote, Whitwick and Ashby Road, Coalville.

The collection of waste paper and salvage is carried out as part of the cleansing service but separately from refuse collection, and special collections are made from shops, factories, etc., as necessary.

The collection and disposal of trade refuse is also carried out by your Council. In the cases of properties with a rateable value of £75 or under, 1 free bin is allowed per week, and for properties over £75 rateable value, 2 free bins per week. All additional bins are charged at 2d each, quantities in excess being charged on a "cost plus" basis.

Applications for cesspool cleansing services are referred to a neighbouring Authority for the use - on a direct re-chargeable basis - of their Gulley & Cesspool Emptyer.

The amount of refuse collected and disposed of during the year was:

Dustbin refuse	16,548 tons
Dry ashpit refuse & ashes in bulk	7 tons
Midden and pail refuse	1,245 tons
Market refuse	107 tons.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Tables showing the total notifications after correction under age groups, and deaths from infectious diseases.

NOTIFICATIONS

Age	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic Non-Paralytic				Measles		Diphtheria	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year			8	4					3	4		
1 - 2	2		17	12					16	19		
3 - 4	5	4	12	20					29	30		
5 - 9	2	2	12	13					23	26		
10 -14	1	1	1	2					1	1		
15 -24												
25 +												
Age Unknown												
Total	9	7	50	51					72	80		
	16		101						152			

/Notifications cont'd.

Age	Acute Pneumonia		Dysentery		Smallpox		Acute Encephal- itis				Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fever		Erysipelas		Meningococcal infection		Food Poisoning		Puerperal Pyrexia		Ophthalmia Neonatorum	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	13	7																					1	
5-14	10	4	1	1												1								
15-44	12	3	3	2																4				
45-64	12	7													2									
65 +	7	8																						
Age unknown		1																						
Total	54	30	4	3											2	1				4			1	
	84		7												2	1				4			1	

DEATHS

	Total	Under 1 year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65+
Scarlet Fever													
Diphtheria													
Pneumonia	5	2										1	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever													
Whooping Cough													
Measles													

DIPHTHERIA.

During the year no cases of this disease were notified.

Dr Gibson, County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly supplied the numbers of children immunised during the year, 333 under

5 years, and 29 between 5 and 14 years a total of 362, whilst 285 children received a boosting dose.

The table shows the numbers immunised during the past 7 years:

Year	-4	5-14	Total	Boosters
1945	356	12	368	0
1946	443	16	459	4
1947	469	9	478	16
1948	377	9	386	96
1949	412	0	421	138
1950	339	27	366	169
1951	333	29	362	285

Tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis, and all deaths from the disease during the year.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1								
1 - 5				1				
5 - 15		1		1				
15 - 25	1					1		
25 - 35	3	1		1		3		
35 - 45	2	5			1			
45 - 55								
55 - 65								
65 +					1			
TOTAL	6	7		3	2	4	-	-

The death rate from this disease is .23 per 1,000 of the population, comparing favourably with that for England and Wales (.31) and for 148 smaller towns (.31).

Infantile Mortality.

During 1951, 9 deaths occurred amongst children under 1 year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 24. This compares with a rate of 61 for 1950, 39 for 1949, 33 for 1948 and 60 for 1947, and with the rate for England and Wales (29.6).

The following table shows the Ward and sex distribution:

Disease	Cent.		North		N-East		South		S-East		West	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Deformities	1			1								1
Prematurity					2		1					
Pneumonia					2							
Birth Injury									1			
TOTAL	1			1	4		1		1			1
	1		1		4		1		1		1	

The great improvement which has taken place in the Infantile Mortality Rate in this district is shown in the appended table

1925 - 106	1935 - 77	1945 - 42
1926 - 98	1936 - 79	1946 - 42
1927 - 65	1937 - 54	1947 - 60
1928 - 52	1938 - 79	1948 - 33
1929 - 61	1939 - 49	1949 - 39
1930 - 68	1940 - 57	1950 - 61
1931 - 96	1941 - 54	1951 - 24
1932 - 84	1942 - 67	
1933 - 69	1943 - 43	
1934 - 31	1944 - 53	

This table shows that of every 1,000 babies born in 1925, 106 died before reaching the age of 12 months, in 1935 77, in 1945 42, and in 1951 24. The rate is subject to considerable fluctuation, but the overall trend is towards marked reduction. Probably no single factor can be singled out as the chief cause, but rather the operation of all the influences which bear on the lives of infants.

It would appear that the improvement experienced locally at any rate is not very largely attributable to the uptake of welfare foods by expectant mothers and children. Just under one third of the potential uptake of Orange Juice and Cod Liver Oil, and just over one third of the potential uptake of Vitamin A and D Tablets is the experience in Coalville and this conforms fairly closely to the average uptake in the Leicester District.

These welfare foods are vitally important in building up a healthy population and all expectant mothers and mothers of infants should take full advantage of the provision made.

Birth rate, Death rate and Analysis of Mortality during 1951.

	Rate per 1,000 total pop.		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 pop.										Rate per 1,000 live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small Pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Acute Polio	Pneumonia	Enteritis under 2 yrs.	Total Deaths under 1 yr.
England & Wales	15.5	.36	12.5	.00	.00	.00	.00	.01	.00	.38	.00	.61	1.4	29.6
Coalville U.D. 1951	14.5	.47	10.1	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.15	.00	.19	.00	24
Coalville U.D. 1950	15.9	.50	10.8	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.03	.00	.35	7.3	61

To make the death rate for Coalville strictly comparable with the rest of the country, the figure given (10.1) should be multiplied by 1.10, the corrected death rate thus being 11.11; and to make the birth rate strictly comparable with the rest of the country, the figure given (14.5) should be multiplied by 1.01, the corrected birth rate thus being 14.64.

Table showing causes of Deaths and
sex distribution of Deaths in 1951.

<u>CAUSE OF DEATH</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	6	2	4
Tuberculosis, other			
Syphilitic disease			
Diphtheria			
Whooping Cough			
Meningococcal infections			
Acute Poliomyelitis			
Measles			
Other infective and parasitic diseases			
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	9	4	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	8		8
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	5		5
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	19	12	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1		1
Diabetes	1		1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	41	19	22
Coronary disease, angina	17	11	6
Hypertension with heart disease	4	2	2
Other heart disease	36	15	21
Other circulatory disease	11	7	4
Influenza	4	2	2
Pneumonia	5	5	
Bronchitis	12	9	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	5	5	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	6	6	
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	
Nephritis and nephrosis	8		8
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	1	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion			
Congenital malformations	6	1	5
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	40	21	19
Motor vehicle accidents	2	2	
All other accidents	8	6	2
Suicide			
Homicide and operations of war			
ALL CAUSES	260	134	126

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of
the Coalville Urban District Council.

Mr Chairman, Councr Mrs Griffin and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the work of the department in so far as it directly affects your Sanitary Inspectors.

This is the first opportunity I have had since taking office of placing on record my personal appreciation of the work of my predeccessor the late Mr B.Greenwood. Although I never had the pleasure of meeting him, the record of service which he left in the department will ever remain a monument to his enthusiasm and desire to improve the sanitary condition of the town.

The year under review is important in that it saw steps taken by the Council to accelerate the conversion of privies and pails, by making a contribution towards the cost; and by the bringing into force of Section 75(3) of the Public Health Act, 1936 for the supply of dustbins.

Both these measures are a definite contribution to the health and an improvement to the amenities enjoyed by the ratepayers.

In this beautiful countryside there is a need for concerted action by all concerned, the public and the town officials alike, to retain unspoiled the natural amenities of the neighbourhood and at the same time take practical steps to improve those parts of the district which are a blot on the landscape. One appreciates that only extensive replanning can ever make the built up parts of the area bear any relationship to the surrounding beauty of the Charnwood Forest. Perhaps this will come some day but in the meantime the fostering of a deep sense of civic pride in the urban district as a whole could do much to make it a place to be proud of.

I never cease to be amazed that in these so-called enlightened days we still suffer the desecration of the countryside by the erection of gigantic colliery spoil banks, whereas for years local authorities have recovered vast areas of low lying land by the adoption of controlled tipping of household refuse. What an outcry there would be if these same authorities had made huge heaps of household refuse visible for miles. Let no one say that the smell from such heaps would be any worse than the smell from a burning spoil bank!! It is surely time that the authorities adopted more modern methods for the disposal of their waste products.

In February Mr J.P.Davies was appointed Additional Sanitary Inspector to fill a vacant post. Both he and Mr Shutes have given excellent service during the year and I cannot speak too highly of their co-operation at all times.

I take this opportunity of congratulating the clerk in the department (Mr G.W.Robinson) on his success during the year in obtaining his Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

I am greatly indebted to the Chairman and Members of the Health & Housing Committee for their support and consideration, to the Clerk for his continued interest in the work of the department and for the advice he has been ready to give at all times. In addition my thanks are due to him for allowing me the use of his senior typist, Mrs Richards, for the typing etc. of the whole of this report, a task of no mean proportion but which she has performed with great enthusiasm and efficiency.

To Dr Hamilton, your Medical Officer of Health, I would say a most sincere thank you for the co-operation and courtesy which he has shown at all times and for his valuable and unfailing support.

Yours faithfully,



Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Municipal Offices,
Coalville.
August 1952.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The sanitary accommodation in the Urban area at the end of 1951 was made up as follows:

8046	-	water closets
71	-	privies in sewered areas
36	-	privies in areas at present unsewered
60	-	pails in sewered areas
122	-	pails in areas at present unsewered
37	-	middens in sewered areas
22	-	middens in areas at present unsewered
10	-	dry ashpits
4	-	chemical closets in sewered areas
9	-	chemical closets in areas at present unsewered.

I am pleased to report that on the 1st April the Council saw fit to bring in a scheme of assistance towards the conversion of privies etc.

Subject to certain conditions the Council now contribute £15 or one half of the cost of conversions whichever sum is the lesser. This has enabled us to continue with the abolition of privies and pails at a greater rate than was anticipated.

The effect of these abolitions should eventually be felt by the refuse collection service in that they reduce the number of middens and pails which have to be emptied during the night. One looks forward to the time, be it ever so remote, when even the present non-sewered areas can be provided with small treatment plants to allow of the conversion of all the privies and pails and the abolition of these middens.

During the year 47 privies and 22 pails were replaced by 63 water closets, and 288 new water closets provided to houses, shops, factories, etc. In addition 4 pails were substituted for 4 privies at houses subject to demolition orders.

The year under review was also important in that it saw the scheme of dustbin replacement put into operation. The Council having decided to make use of its powers under Section 75(3) of the Public Health Act, 1936. It is unfortunate that the bringing in of the scheme coincided with the ban placed on the galvanizing of dustbins. It is to be hoped that this ban is lifted in the very near future for the high cost of bins plus their short life has resulted in the scheme being a rate-aided venture whereas under normal conditions with dustbins of reasonable life, it is possible to make it self balancing. One trusts that the appropriate organisations will continue to press the Ministry for a relaxation of this ban.

From the inception of the scheme on the 1st April to the end of the year 102 bins were provided in lieu of existing defective bins.

The numbers of the various refuse receptacles in use at the end of 1951 were:

Dustbins	-	7,800
Ashpits	-	3
Middens	-	59

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given below are for all purposes, including those given elsewhere in this report, with the exception of rodent extermination.

Total number of complaints received	-	495
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"	notices served:	
	(a) formal	48
	(b) informal	322
"	notices complied with:	
	(a) formal	37
	(b) informal	368

Inspections in connection with:-

Dwellinghouses	1,943
Verminous and dirty premises	28
Drainage works	467
Tents, vans and sheds	7
Water supplies	22
Smoke observations	3
Outworkers, workshops, etc.	229
Shops	263
Keeping of animals	54
+ Rodent control	44
Refuse storage, collection and disposal	185
Schools	8
Slaughterhouses & meat inspection	709
Other food premises	400
Bakchouses	12
Dairies	40
Miscellaneous inspections	152
Total	4,566

+Not including visits by Rodent Operator.

Additional work was carried out as under

Houses disinfected	29
Houses disinfecting	3
Milk samples for T.B. examination	26
Ice-cream samples	17
Water samples by Sanitary	
Inspectors	9
Milk Samples (Methylene Blue and/or Phosphatase test)	98
Building Licences issued	32

The number of notices served during the year, together with figures showing the number complied with, are given in the following tables:

PRELIMINARY

	Housing	Others
Outstanding on 1st January	73	183
Issued during year	129	193
Complied with during year	122	246
Statutory action necessary	15	33
Outstanding on 31st December	65	97

STATUTORY

Outstanding on 1st January	29	23
Issued during year	15	33
Complied with during year	11	26
Outstanding on 31st December	23	33

The position regarding compliance with informal notices sent by the department remains fairly static. I cannot think that the position has deteriorated during the year in spite of the high cost of repairs and the low return from cottage property. It is a comforting fact that we still have a nucleus of owners who respond to a reasonable approach though there are some who are extremely unwilling to face their responsibilities.

It was necessary to serve approximately the same number of statutory notices during the year. In some instances these have the desired effect immediately, in others we find that owners will wait until the very last moment before making a move. We have been loath to appeal to the courts for magistrates orders but I am afraid that in some cases this will become the only solution.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are two of these, both situated in the City of Dan, Whitwick, both accommodating male lodgers only, and both in the same ownership. They have a total capacity of 34 beds, the lodgers now being mainly "regulars" and employed at local factories, mines and farms. There are very few casuals.

Both houses are very old, poorly adapted for their present use (having originally been dwelling-houses) and in only fair condition structurally. They are situated in an area which is ripe for clearance, and if progress in this direction is possible in the near future, some consideration will have to be given to the provision of alternative accommodation for these "lodgers". Whether this will best be done by private ownership or whether provision should be made by the local authority will be a matter primarily for your decision and may well be considered in future housing proposals.

7,219 "lodger nights" were recorded during the year, an average of 19.8 lodgers per night, all males of full age. The figure for 1950 was 7,997. There were no cases of infectious disease reported during the year at either house.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

There are no camping sites, in the generally accepted sense of the term, in the area, the only sites licensed being used for single vans or sheds for permanent or semi-permanent occupation.

Camping on unlicensed and completely unsuitable sites has again occurred during the year and vigilance is necessary to enable us to deal with offenders before serious nuisance is caused. These offenders are generally hawkers. The difficulties of control in these cases are increased by the absence of any suitable licensed site in the area to which all these van owners could be directed, and a recommendation has been made to you that a local-authority-owned site should be provided for this purpose.

During the year 3 vans or sheds have been occupied with 3 still remaining tenanted at the end of the year. Generally speaking they have been maintained in fair condition.

7 inspections were made during 1951.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades in the area.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.)

CANAL BOATS.)

) There are none of these in the area.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools in the area for public use. The Council's swimming baths were open to the public from 5th May to 29th September, 1951.

Daily tests of the water for chlorine residual and alkalinity were made, and bacteriological examinations were satisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of the schools in the area is generally satisfactory, with the exception of those few cases where the school buildings themselves are of unsatisfactory type and construction and which are to be dealt with under the new educational scheme.

One school at Standard Hill still has conservancy type closet accommodation.

It was not necessary to resort to school closure on account of infectious disease during the year, nor was school disinfection necessary.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The under-mentioned tables are similar to those supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service and give details of inspection of factories and of defects found:

<u>TABLE 1.</u>		Number of		
Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecut- ions.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	83	60	8	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	3	4	1	-
Total	89	70	9	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

TABLE 2	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S1)	1	1		
Overcrowding (S2)				
Unreasonable temperature (S3)				
Inadequate ventilation (S4)				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)				
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)				
(a) insufficient	2	1		1
(b) unsuitable or defective	5	3		
(c) not separate for sexes				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).				
TOTAL	8	5		1

The table shown hereunder relates to outworkers and is a copy of that submitted to the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Nature of Work		Section 110			Section 111		
		No. of Outworkers in August list. (Sect. 110(1)(c)).	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel	Making etc.	239	-	-	-	-	-
	Cleaning and Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets		3	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas		1	-	-	-	-	-
Carding of Buttons etc.		5	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed Toys		4	-	-	-	-	-
Total		253	-	-	-	-	-

A total of 156 visits were made to outworkers homes during the year. In no case could exception be taken to the condition of the premises.

There were no outbreaks of infectious disease in the homes of outworkers.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

No byelaws are in force in your district regulating the emission of smoke.

The sources of pollution in the area are many, including smoke from industrial chimneys, brick kilns and railway engines, dust from quarrying operations, fumes from burning colliery spoil banks and last but by no means least smoke from domestic chimneys. It is indeed fortunate that Coalville is some 500 ft above sea level and not surrounded by hilly country. The amount of pollution of the atmosphere is rapidly dispersed and rarely, if ever, does one see a pall of smoke lying over the town. Even so this is no excuse for neglecting this important subject.

No effort will be spared by your officers to minimise the quantity of industrial pollution by pressing with all the power at our command for improvements in the methods of industrial stoking, for the modernisation of the many out-of-date plants in the area and for improved systems of dust collection. Steps have been taken to deal with certain burning spoil banks and one can look forward to an improvement in this direction.

In the case of railway engines, and I especially refer to shunting engines which are used on private sidings, I hope that eventually the owners will be persuaded to change over to Diesel or similar type locomotives. The smoke emitted is at such a level as to be a source of constant nuisance especially near the centre of the town.

It is natural to suppose that in view of the amount of concessionary coal which is available in the area the amount of pollution from the domestic chimney is higher than the average. There is, therefore, a great need for the intelligent use of such coal and for an improvement in the type of firegrate used. It is pleasing to report that with new Council houses cooking is done by gas thus reducing the amount of raw coal which has to be consumed. It is indeed unfortunate that the high price of coke, and other smokeless fuels, has tended to cause an increased use of raw coal for space heating purposes.

All this pollution from whatever source has in my opinion increased the acid content of the atmosphere and I see this reflected in

the damage to brickwork and artificial stonework of buildings.

There is no doubt that co-operation from everyone concerned could do much to minimise this problem.

KEEPING OF ANIMALS.

Pig-keeping once more came under control of local byelaws by the amendment of the Defence Regulation governing this matter. Generally speaking pig-keepers premises were kept in fair condition. In a number of cases we have succeeded in obtaining improvements and as new premises are proposed strict compliance with byelaws is required.

54 inspections of piggeries and stable premises were made during the year.

RODENT INFESTATION.

A full-time rodent operator is employed by your Authority under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and the district is systematically inspected for infestations. No charge is made for dealing with infestations arising at private dwelling-houses, but in the case of business premises a charge of 3/6d per hour is made to cover labour and all materials used.

Your Authority's sewage farms, refuse tips and Highways Depot, and the banks of streams and brook-courses in the area receive regular attention. Sewer treatments were carried out in March and September.

SECTION D

HOUSING.

Some progress has been made during the year towards improving certain of the houses in the town and an effort made to establish which are capable of repair at reasonable expense and which should be dealt with as individually unfit houses.

We have, as far as possible, inspected and recorded many houses and where they have fallen into the last named category dealt with the very urgent repairs only. Those found to be capable of reconditioning have been treated accordingly. It is pleasing and refreshing to record that a few owners at least have seen fit to really put their houses in order quite regardless of the expense incurred.

The constant revisits, interviews, etc., are reflected only to a small extent in the 949 visits paid.

In all 147 houses were rendered fit as a result of informal action by your Officers and 35 by owners after the service of Statutory Notices. In two cases houses were rendered fit by your authority in default of the owner.

During the year demolition orders were made in respect of three houses found to be incapable of repair at reasonable expense, and eleven tenants re-housed from houses subject to demolition orders or undertakings.

In one case a demolition order was determined on a 600 year old thatched cottage, it being considered by the Ministry to be a house of "historic or architectural value". In accordance with the direction of the Minister a Closing Order under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1949 was substituted and the tenant re-housed.

Undertakings in respect of two houses which had subsequently been made fit were determined.

I would like to place on record my appreciation for the sympathy and understanding shown by the Council in this very vexed question of housing. There is room for both repair and for demolition, each having its place in any serious attempt to improve the housing conditions in the town. It would be wrong to say, because Coalville has no slums in the true meaning of the word, that it has no houses which are totally unfit for human habitation. Structurally some of these houses are in a far worse condition than many houses in the city slum areas. Their only redeeming feature is that they cannot be accused of lack of air space. The Council is making a serious attempt to provide houses for the purpose of replacing these unsatisfactory dwellings and at the same time considering their other commitments. Close co-operation exists with the department responsible for the allocation of houses in order that houses which are liable to be vacated can be repaired or steps taken to prevent them being re-let.

An effort is constantly being made to inspect and record all substandard property in your area, but our many routine duties and activities in other directions has resulted in our only touching the fringe of the problem. It is necessary that a complete survey of all houses should be made in order to clarify the position and decide which houses should be demolished and which should be reconditioned.

8 cases of overcrowding were relieved during the year and no new cases recorded. The 21 houses remaining on our records accommodate 34 families and 199 persons.

12 houses were in use during the year under requisitioning powers for housing families inadequately housed, a reduction of four on the previous year.

At the end of 1951 the number of applicants for Council houses stood at 882, an increase of 53 on the previous year.

At the close of the year 426 post-war houses had been completed by your Authority (including 50 pre-fabricated houses by the Ministry of Works) 48 by the East Midlands Housing Association and 146 by private enterprise.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

The table below shows the number of dairies and distributors registered at 31st December, 1951 and the number of inspections made:-

DAIRIES (other than dairy farms) and DISTRIBUTORS (Section 8 Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949)					
	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions.		
			Found	Remedied	Outstanding on 31st Dec.
Dairies	12	40	2	-	2
Distributors	40	108	-	-	-

Generally speaking the milk supplied in the town is handled and distributed in a satisfactory manner. There is still a need for improvement of one or two dairies but these were having attention at the close of the year.

I cannot resist the temptation to reiterate what was said last year regarding the position of pasteurised milk. This will not be available in bulk after the 1st October, 1954 for filling into bottles in local dairies. It has not come to my notice that any steps have been taken by local dairymen to safeguard their own interests and one can only assume that in due course of time they will, of necessity, cease to bottle pasteurised milk and simply become distributors of milk received by them

in bottles from the pasteurising plants.

There is one licensed pasteurising establishment in your area and the premises have at all times been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Sampling of milk for bacteriological examination has again played its part in the activities of the department.

The following table shows the result of these samples:

Designation	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
			No.	Approx. %
Tuberculin Tested	15	11	4	26%
Tuberculin Tested (pasteurised)	10	9	1	10%
Pasteurised	13	12	1	8%
Sterilised	5	5	-	-
Accredited	6	5	1	16%
Ordinary	49	38	11	22%
TOTAL	98	80	18	18%

The percentage of unsatisfactory samples is much too high and shows a sharp deterioration compared with the figure for 1950. In that year the figure was less than 4% as against 18% in the year under review. It would appear that the greatest increase is in the samples of raw milk, especially the ordinary ungraded milk where the percentage found to be unsatisfactory has risen from 8% to 22% and in the tuberculin tested from 16% to 26%.

I do not think that the distribution and handling after the milk leaves the place of production is in any way different to what it was in 1950 and one is led to the conclusion that the methods of production, and may be the storage at the farm, leaves something to be desired.

Although every unsatisfactory sample is reported to the proper authority we can only be certain that conditions or methods have improved when we take future repeat samples and find them consistently satisfactory. Gone are those days when we used to hie off to the farm and watch the process of milking through the various stages in order to satisfy ourselves that the resultant product could not be bacteriologically improved. We did not wait until we had unsatisfactory reports before visiting the farms, we did them as a routine measure, always anticipating the possibility of a falling off in cleanliness. I think that dairymen

as a whole responded to our interest knowing that we only went along to help and not to hinder production. Does this method still operate? I wonder. Or is it a case of visiting the farm because someone "who takes samples" miles away says the milk is substandard. If so I contend it is more than useless. All farmers are not keen dairymen and many have to be reminded constantly of their responsibilities and liabilities.

I hasten to say that it is not my intention to level criticism at any particular body of officers but rather at the system which neglects the routine inspection of all dairy farms. This I submit has been proved over the years to be the only sure foundation for a clean milk supply.

During the year 26 samples of raw milk were submitted for biological examination. The number being limited by the number of guinea pigs available for this purpose.

My sincere hope of last year for a continuance of 100% negative samples was dashed by two positive reports.

In both cases stoppage notices were served under Article 20 of the regulations and the producers required to apply heat treatment to the affected milk. In due course the diseased cows in the two herds were identified and slaughtered and the stoppage notices cancelled. One dairyman reverted to the sale of raw milk but the other has continued to dispose of milk in bulk to the pasteurising plant drawing treated milk for retail sale to his customers.

The following licences to deal in designated milks were issued during the year:

<u>Dealers Licences</u>		<u>Supplementary Licences</u>	
Pasteurised	15	Pasteurised	1
Sterilised	8		
Tuberculin Tested	17		

(b) Meat and other Foods.

No effort was spared during the year to continue with our 100% inspection of animals slaughtered for sale for human consumption at the Ministry of Food slaughterhouse in your area. The premises still serve the Urban Districts of Ashby, Ashby Woulds, Shepshed and Coalville and the Rural Districts of Ashby and Castle Donington, but the whole of the inspectorial work is carried out by your staff.

An addition to our responsibilities was created during the year by the opening of a Class B bacon factory in your area. The

throughput is limited at the moment but there is every possibility that this will be increased in the future.

The following tables show the position in 1951:

Regional Slaughterhouses in area	1
Class B Bacon Factories in area	1
Animals slaughtered therein	14,638
Animals examined therein	14,638
Animals slaughtered elsewhere	375
Animals examined elsewhere	375
Inspections of meat at time of slaughter	702

DETAILS OF CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNATIONS.

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs & Sheep	Pigs	Total
Number killed	2372	1430	1373	8017	1821	15013
Number inspected	2372	1430	1373	8017	1821	15013
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						<u>Total weight in lbs.</u>
Whole carcasses condemned	5	4	17	25	5	10427
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	989	1000	2	1110	166	34791
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	41.9%	70.2%	1.3%	14.1%	9.9%	
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	13	42	1	-	4	30898
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	399	462	-	-	77	34325
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	17.4%	35.2%	0.07%	-	4.4%	

It will be seen from the foregoing table that 110,441-lbs of meat and offal or 49-tons 6-cwts 9-lbs were condemned during the year. This is a reduction of 16-tons on the previous year and some of the reduction is no doubt due to the fact that 1,877 fewer animals were slaughtered than in 1950. Some reduction is again noticed in the percentage of animals found to be affected with tuberculosis. Especially is this apparent in cows where the percentage has fallen from 49.2 in 1950 to 35.2 in 1951.

Steps were taken during the year with the whole-hearted co-operation of the Council to bring to the notice of the Ministry the comments made in the Report for 1950. These comments were in connection with the limited accommodation at the slaughterhouse.

Negotiations were still being continued at the close of the year.

It is to be hoped that real progress will be made in the near future, for at peak periods the accommodation at the slaughterhouse is insufficient to meet the demands placed upon it. It may be that before another year goes by there will be some relaxation of control in regard to the slaughtering industry and perhaps that is the reason that the authorities are loathe to make major alterations to existing structures. One cannot help but wonder what the future holds if control is removed for then the premises in your district will presumably become once again a private slaughterhouse.

I think it unlikely that slaughtering in the many private slaughterhouses as we knew it in 1939 will ever return. What then will be the substitute for this system? Will it mean that the butchers in your area will have to purchase meat from the larger abattoirs situated twelve or more miles away? Such would appear to be the position unless we are prepared to erect a public slaughterhouse of our own which will provide sufficient accommodation to replace the existing Ministry of Food premises. There truly is a need for early pronouncement by the Ministry as to their future policy. I cannot think that the existing publicly owned slaughterhouses in the country are of sufficient capacity to allow of the closing of the many Ministry of Food controlled private slaughterhouses without additional premises being erected. Where are these additional premises going to be erected, and what is more important who is going to bear the very high cost of such works? It may be argued that local authorities should take over existing regional slaughterhouses. That may be a satisfactory arrangement in some cases but not in others. A local authority is unlikely to accept with good grace premises which are unsuitable for use as a public abattoir, in spite of the fact that they have been so used for upwards of 12 years.

Our own regional slaughterhouse is a case in point. Whilst it may be considered to be a good private slaughterhouse not by any

stretch of imagination could it be considered to be an ideal public abattoir. One appreciates that structurally it could be improved but it is too far removed from a rail head to make it a good abattoir. Whereas at the moment the majority of animals for slaughter come by road from not too distant markets, under normal conditions private purchasers go much further afield to buy animals and this often necessitates the animals being delivered by rail. In the case of a slaughterhouse away from a cattle siding this calls for the droving of animals through the streets. A very undesirable practice, especially in these times of traffic congestion. Should it ever arise that Coalville must provide its own public abattoir care will have to be taken in the selection of a site which will afford all necessary facilities and still create an absolute minimum of nuisance.

Included in the number of animals slaughtered during the year were 375 pigs under the "Self supplier" scheme of the Ministry of Food. All these animals were inspected and where necessary any affected parts were voluntarily surrendered by the owners for destruction. My negotiations with the local officers of the Ministry of Food which I mentioned last year were not instrumental in achieving the desired object of transferring the slaughter of all such pigs from back yards to licenced slaughterhouses. I still feel that the Ministry could, if they wished, make this a condition of the licence.

In addition to the Regional slaughterhouse 10 privately owned slaughterhouses were licensed by your Authority during the year, these being used only for the slaughter of householders' pigs. All these premises were maintained in a satisfactory manner during 1951.

Under various legislation affecting food shops, stores, food preparation etc., premises, the under-mentioned inspections were carried out:

Fried Fish Shops	24
Butchers	49
Fishmongers	6
Grocers	134
Greengrocers and fruiterers	12
Food manufacturers	9
Restaurants and Canteens	26
Confectioners	4
Bakehouses	12
Slaughterhouses	7
Licensed Premises	74
Ice-cream Premises	19
Market Stalls	21
Vehicles	15

26 informal notices were served as a result of these inspections, dealing with repairs, lack of cleanliness, sanitary accommodation, utensils, protection of foodstuffs, etc.

Good progress was made during the year in the improvement of the condition of some of the licensed premises. Generally speaking the owners have responded to our requests, in spite of the high cost of the alterations and the difficulty of obtaining the necessary building licences. We have enjoyed good co-operation with the Regional Licensing Officer who has at all times given sympathetic consideration to applications for work to improve the sanitary condition of licensed premises and other premises used for the storage and handling of food.

In our inspections of food premises a considerable quantity of food was examined. The following is a list of foods condemned:

126 Tins of Milk	12 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lbs Corned Mutton
400 Tins Tomatoes	184 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs Corned Beef
82 Tins Vegetables	20-lbs Bacon and Ham
70 Tins Soup	67-lbs Dates
140 Tins Fruit	254-lbs Biscuits
36 Tins Fish	37-lbs Cheese
17 Tins Chicken	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs Pork Brawn
1 Tin Malted Milk	20 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs Luncheon Meat
1 Tin Pudding	6-lbs Suet
1 Tin Rabbit	39-lbs Jellied Veal
1 Tin Tongue	144 Fish Cakes
4 Tins Stewed Steak	90 Jam and Swiss Rolls
14 Jars Jam etc.	953 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lbs Canned Cooked Ham
4 Packets Cereals	52-lbs English Beef
21-lbs Pastry Mixture	7-lbs English Pork
3 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lbs Canned Pork	21-lbs English Mutton
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs Ham Loaf	39 Rabbits
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs Sausage	80-lbs Imported Livers.

(c) Ice-cream.

Under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, there were registered at the close of the year 59 premises for the sale of ice-cream and 1 for its manufacture and retailing. No ice-cream was manufactured at these latter premises during the year.

The "Standard code of practice" for these premises, adopted by your Authority in 1947, has been in operation throughout the year and has formed the basis on which all new applicants for registration have been dealt with. The "code" also laid down the official requirements for the construction of vehicles used for the sale of ice-cream, for the equipment to be carried and for the observance of hygienic practices by the vendors.

Generally speaking the majority of the premises and vehicles from which ice-cream is sold are satisfactory and retailers appear to be fully aware of the need for scrupulous cleanliness in the handling of this important article of food.

17 samples of ice-cream were submitted for examination during the year. 15 of these were placed in provisional Grade I (Methylene Blue Test) and 2 in Grade II.

(d) Adulteration etc.

Your Authority is not responsible for this work, the food adulteration clauses being administered by the County Council.

(e) Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

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